



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Lynn Doucette-Stamm and David Bush

Application No.:

09/450,969

Group:

1637

Filed:

November 29, 1999

Examiner:

J. Siew

For:

Nucleic Acid and Amino Acid Sequences Relating to

Staphylococcus epidermidis for Diagnostics and

Therapeutics

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450; Mail Stop RCE Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 in response to the Final Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 4, 2003 in the above-identified application. Also submitted herewith is a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, a Petition to Extend the statutory period for replying to the Final Office Action for three months, from June 4, 2003 to September 4, 2003, the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3) and authorization to charge the appropriate fees are being filed concurrently herewith. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the finality of the Office Action, and entry and consideration of this Amendment in view of the accompanying remarks.

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Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.